

WORLD MISSION OFFERING

Nov 2016–Jan 2017

Given beyond our regular tithes, the World Mission Offering supports missionaries in Texas, the USA and around the world. Use designated envelopes at your campus, give online at HoustonsFirst.org, or text your campus code to 77977 for a link to give on your mobile device (HFBCLoop, HFBC Cypress, HFBC Downtown, HFBC Espanol, HFBC Sienna).



2017 DEVOTIONALS

Pastor Gregg recommends two devotional options for our church family to use in 2017 – *Discovering God: 365 Daily Devotionals* by David Jeremiah, and *Simple Pursuit: A Heart After Jesus* by the Passion Movement.

CornerBooks

NEW YEAR'S DAY SERVICES

Sun, Jan 1

Visit your campus' page at HoustonsFirst.org for details about the following services on New Year's Day:

- The Loop @ 10a
- Cypress @ 9:30a
- Downtown @ 11a
- Español @ 5p (Chapel)
- Sienna @ 10a

SUNDAYS AT HOUSTON'S FIRST

The Loop Campus

7401 Katy Fwy
Houston, TX 77024
Worship 9:15a • 11a • 5p
Life Bible Studies
8a • 9:15a • 10:45a • 6:30p

Cypress Campus

Smith Middle School
10300 Warner Smith Blvd
Cypress, TX 77433
Worship 9:30a & 11a
Life Bible Studies 9:30a & 11a

Downtown Campus

1010 Lamar (Tunnel Level)
Houston, TX 77002
Worship 11a
Life Bible Studies 9:30a

Español Campus

7401 Katy Freeway
Houston, TX 77024
Worship 5p
Life Bible Studies 6:30p

Sienna Campus

4309 Sienna Pkwy
Missouri City, TX 77459
Worship 9:30a & 11a
Life Bible Studies 9:30a & 11a



FIRST PANTRY

Sun, Jan 1 – The Loop

The Faith Center's Food Pantry & Clothes Closets serve more than 1,000 people each month. Next Sunday, Jan 1, please bring nonperishable food items, gently used clothing and other household goods to The Loop Campus to help serve those in need. Donation bins will be located at main entrances to the church and in the Missions Office.

For more information on Giving Life Away, contact Charlotte.Nease@HoustonsFirst.org.

LIFE BIBLE STUDIES

Life Bible Studies are the primary method for connecting with others and growing together at Houston's First. Visit HoustonsFirst.org to find one that's right for you, or ask the Guest Experience (GX) team at your campus for assistance.

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM



Visit HoustonsFirst.org to download two original songs as our gift to you,

"Let's Celebrate Christmas Again" and "Make a Memory for Christmas"



SHUTTLE PARKING

Do you attend The Loop on Sunday mornings? Use shuttle parking to make room for others! It's a simple way to expand the ministry of our church. Get details on the five garages at HoustonsFirst.org.



HOUSTON'S FIRST

BAPTIST CHURCH

PASTOR GREGG MATTE

Weekly Guide
Dec 25, 2016

ميلاد مجيد

Joyeux Noël

圣诞节快乐

Feliz Navidad

חג מולד שמח

Heri la Krismasi

क्रिसमस की बधाई

Mừng Chúa Giáng Sinh

Fröhliche Weihnachten

സന്തോഷകരമായ ക്രിസ്തുമസ്

Merry Christmas!

"... I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people:
Today a Savior, who is Messiah the Lord, was born for you ..."

— Luke 2:10–11

ALL CAMPUSES

HighPoint Bible Study

Wednesdays @ 11:30a — 1010 Lamar (Tunnel Level)

This weekly downtown Bible study is taking a Christmas break! Join us on again on Wed, Jan 11, with Dr. David Self teaching at 12:10p. Bring your lunch or purchase one there for \$8.

Visit HoustonsFirst.org to learn more.

CONTACT Diane.Bagby@HoustonsFirst.org

Midnight Madness

Fri, Jan 27 @ 5:30p–Midnight — The Loop

Current and prospective Life Bible Study leaders from each Houston's First campus will gather for this annual equipping event for great training, inspiring vision, fantastic giveaways, interactive fun — and food, of course! Learn how Life Bible Study is a critical part of the mission of Christ and come together as leaders from all age groups and leadership positions to focus on how each leader can serve with excellence. Register at HoustonsFirst.org.

CONTACT Alisa.Williams@HoustonsFirst.org

YOUNG SINGLE ADULTS

Summit NYE 2017

Sat, Dec 31 @ 9p–1a — NRG Stadium

This New Year's Eve, Go Big or Go Home at Summit NYE 2017! Celebrate another New Year while throwing it back to the glitz and glam of Old Hollywood. Sure to be an instant classic, the party will have heavy hors d'oeuvres, DJ & dancing, karaoke, stadium tours, and more! So, ring in 2017 in a BIG way at Summit NYE 2017! Find out more and register at HoustonsFirst.org.

CONTACT Joshua.Bagby@HoustonsFirst.org

MARRIED YOUNG ADULTS

Mingling of Souls

Feb 10–11 — The Loop (Worship Center)

Houston's First welcomes back Matt and Lauren Chandler as they present the Mingling of Souls Marriage Conference live at The Loop. With new content to share, Matt and Lauren will cover the following areas at this citywide event open to married couples of all ages: The Covenant, Progress, Common Grace, and The Long Game. Find out more about pricing, childcare and registration at HoustonsFirst.org.

CONTACT Kristin.Hawkinson@HoustonsFirst.org

MEN

Men: Serve

Sat, Jan 14 @ 8a–1p — The Loop

There is a place for you to serve the widows of our church family through yard work, home repairs, car maintenance and other tasks. Register by Fri, Jan 6, at HoustonsFirst.org. If you are a widow in need of assistance contact Sherry Oradat at 713.957.6764.

CONTACT Emily.Brown@HoustonsFirst.org

THE LOOP

MidLink Movie: "The Insanity of God"

Wed, Jan 18 @ 6:30p — The Loop (Worship Center)

After the death of their son, missionaries Nik and Ruth Ripken journey into the depths of the persecuted church, asking the question: IS JESUS WORTH IT? "The Insanity of God" tells their story of being taught by believers in persecution "how to follow Jesus, how to love Jesus, and how to walk with Him day by day even when it doesn't make sense." The movie is free to attend! So, come early for dinner at MidLink Cafe (4:45–6:15p) and take your kids (birth–5th grade) to NextGen programming while your 6th–12th graders come to the movie with you.

CONTACT Courtney.Schisler@HoustonsFirst.org

MidLink / Milestones Preview Night

Wed, Jan 25 @ 6:30p — The Loop

As a follow-up to "The Insanity of God" from the week before, we'll gather in the Chapel for an interview with Benjamin Lee, currently serving in China, about "ministry in dark places." Afterwards, the Milestones Open House in the Main Foyer will allow you to discover what Milestones classes are offered during the spring semester. NextGen programming for all ages (birth–12th grade) will be available, along with MidLink Cafe from 4:45–6:15p.

CONTACT Courtney.Schisler@HoustonsFirst.org

Fitness Expo

Sun, Jan 29 @ 12:15–2p — The Loop (Fitness & Rec Ctr)

Celebrating its 33rd anniversary in 2017, the Fitness & Recreation Center (FRC) offers a variety of classes, programs, and opportunities. The FRC is more than just a place to get in shape; it's a ministry as well. Come discover all that the FRC has to offer at Expo 2017 with class demonstrations, health screenings, kids' programs and much more! Learn more at HoustonsFirst.org.

CONTACT Becca.Wooldridge@HoustonsFirst.org

SINGLE ADULTS

Impact New Year's Eve Party

Sat, Dec 31 @ 8:30p — Hunt Retreat

Ring in 2017 with an evening of hilarity and fun! Enjoy a show, hors d'oeuvres, games, music, smiles and more. Robb Brunson from InterActive Theater Company will emcee the night's entertainment, Impact's Got Talent Variety Show! Rooms are available if you want to stay the night, but space is limited, so reserve your spot before they are gone. Get all the details at HoustonsFirst.org!

CONTACT Chris.Heitman@HoustonsFirst.org

WOMEN

Fighting for Your Family

Sat, Jan 14 @ 9a–12p — The Loop (Chapel)

Are you ready to fight for the ones you love the most? Join us for a workshop led by author, speaker, and Bible teacher, Debbie Stuart, Director of Ministry Initiatives at Hope for the Heart. Debbie has experience with prodigals and has had to learn how to fight for her own family over the years. Childcare available for \$10 (\$5 each additional child) by registration at HoustonsFirst.org by Fri, Jan 6.

CONTACT Meredyth.Cann@HoustonsFirst.org

CYPRESS

MidLink

Wed, Jan 11 @ 6–8p — Cypress Ministry Center

There's more to the Cypress Campus of Houston's First than what happens on Sundays! MidLink is a mid-week gathering connecting the church family from Sunday to Sunday. The next MidLink semester begins Wed, Jan 11, and includes Mission Friends and BLAST for ages birth–5th grade, community groups for HUB Students (6th–12th grades), Financial Peace University and PLACE classes for adults.

CONTACT Dana.Haddad@HoustonsFirst.org

DOWNTOWN

Marathon Sunday

Sun, Jan 15 — 1010 Lamar

The Downtown Campus will cheer for Houston Marathon runners at 8a as they pass by our front door at 1010 Lamar! We'll exercise our hospitality by engaging in conversation with fellow spectators, and offering hot cocoa and coffee, too. Come worship with us later that evening at 5p.

CONTACT Nikki.Moss@HoustonsFirst.org

ESPAÑOL

NEXTGEN MINISTRIES

Career & Education Day

Sat, Feb 18 @ 9a–3p — George R. Brown Convention Center

Middle and high school students and parents are invited to join us in a full day of college and financial aid information provided by the Houston Hispanic Forum. This event is free, but registration is required at HoustonsFirst.org.

CONTACT Karina.Bazaldua@HoustonsFirst.org

SIENNA

NEXTGEN MINISTRIES

Popcorn & PJs Movie Night

Fri, Jan 13 @ 6–8:30p — Sienna Worship Center

Wear your favorite pajamas and invite a friend for a special family movie night full of popcorn and candy! Families with kids of all ages are welcome to come and watch *Finding Dory*.

CONTACT Cara.Buis@HoustonsFirst.org

YEAR-END GIVING

You may be interested in making a financial contribution to Houston's First before the 2016 tax year ends on Sat, Dec 31. For contributions to qualify as a 2016 tax-deductible donation, they must be received by the church as follows:

- **Online**
Giving online at HoustonsFirst.org is always a convenient way to share your generosity. Contributions submitted at HoustonsFirst.org must be made before midnight (Central) on Sat, Dec 31, 2016.
- **Mobile**
Contributions submitted on a mobile device must be made before midnight (Central) on Sat, Dec 31, 2016. To make a mobile contribution, text your campus code to 77977 to receive a designated link — [HFBCLoop](#), [HFBCCypress](#), [HFBCDowntown](#), [HFBCEspanol](#) or [HFBCSIenna](#).
- **In person:**
Contributions must be brought to the church's Financial Services office by no later than 2p on Sat, Dec 31, 2016. The office will be open on that Saturday from 10a–2p and is located at The Loop Campus at 7401 Katy Freeway.
- **By mail:**
The postmark date must be before Jan 1, 2017. Contributions should be mailed to Houston's First Baptist Church, 7401 Katy Freeway, Houston, Texas 77024.

Contact Sara.Johnson@HoustonsFirst.org, or call her at 713.957.5806 if you would like additional information.

GIFTS OF STOCK

Since the church is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, gifts of stock qualify as a charitable contribution and are tax deductible. If you would like to donate a gift of stock, or desire additional information, please contact Amber Willet at 713.957.5807 or at Amber.Willet@HoustonsFirst.org.

As a courtesy to others

- Silence cell phones
- Use restroom before worship service
- Remain seated once message begins
- If you leave, re-entry may not be allowed

At the end of the worship service as people are invited to accept Christ or join the church

- Remain in the Worship Center
- Pray as people respond
- Exit after we are dismissed